

8 Feb 2022

SARS-CoV-2 Variant Detection

World Health Organization (WHO) has been monitoring and assessing the evolution of SARS-CoV-2 since January 2020, and the emergence of new strains in recent months has triggered the characterisation of SARS-CoV-2 variants.

BA.2, a descendant lineage from the SARS-CoV-2 Variant of Concern (VOC), Omicron, is reportedly more infectious than the Omicron variant that it descended from (Lyngse *et al.*, 2022).

Veredus Laboratories is continuously monitoring the global situation of COVID-19 pandemic and conducting extensive impact assessment of SARS-CoV-2 variants on **VereCoV™ OneMix Detection Assay**, **VereRT™ COVID-19 PCR Assay** and **VereRT™ ZeroPrep™ COVID-19 PCR Assay**.

Veredus' latest bioinformatic check against the BA.2 sub-variant with GISAID database has confirmed that, amongst the 14,033 deposited sequences in the database, the abovementioned Veredus' detection assays are able to confidently detect for the Omicron sub-variant lineage, BA.2.

A summary of our analysis is tabulated below.

WHO VOC Classification	Pango lineage	Origin of detection	(No. of detection incompatibility) / (Total no. of SARS-CoV-2 Genome cross checked against)	Detectability using VereRT™ COVID-19 PCR Kit	Detectability using VereRT™ ZeroPrep™ COVID-19 PCR Kit	Detectability using VereCoV™ OneMix Detection Kit
Omicron	BA.2	South Africa	0 / 14,033	100%*	100%*	100%**

* At least 1 of the 2 N gene targets in the VereRT™ PCR assay is detectable

** At least 2 of the 5 target regions on the VereChip™ are detectable

83 Science Park Drive #04-02
Singapore 118258
T: (65) 6496 8600 F: (65) 6779 2680

vereduslabs.com

Company Registration Number: 200305085G